

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions of claims in the application.

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1 -7 (Cancelled).

Claim 8 (Original): A management system of a machine, comprises:

a maintenance rank table organized by model that stores a maintenance prediction value with respect to a maintenance within a contract term or a contract time for two or more contract ranks every each model;

an input means that enters a model of machine that makes a maintenance contract, a contract rank, and a maintenance actual result value;

a means for storing a maintenance actual result value, where the maintenance actual result value of the machine, which is entered using the input means and accumulatively stored; and

a determination means that determines whether a maintenance actual result value is larger than a maintenance prediction value, where the maintenance prediction value that corresponds to the machine's mode and the contract rank is read out of the maintenance rank table organized by model after a expiration of the contract of the machine, while the maintenance result value of the machine is read out of the storage means that stores the maintenance actual result value.

Claim 9 (Original): A management system of a machine as claimed in Claim 8, wherein the determination means includes a means to calculate a dividend, where a dividend is calculated if under the condition that the maintenance actual value is lower than the maintenance predicted value and the difference between these values is higher than the predetermined value.

Claim 10 (Original): A management system of a machine as claimed in Claim 8 wherein the contract rank of maintenance rank table organized by model is defined on the basis of the usage conditions and the operating conditions of the machine.

Claim 11 (Original): A management system of a machine, comprising:
a client terminal and a server that connects to the client terminal through a network,
wherein
the client server includes an input means for entering a model of machine under a maintenance contract, a contract rank, a maintenance actual result value, a display means, and a control means that requests data to the server and represents the data transmitted from the server on the display means; and
the server includes a maintenance rank table organized by model that stores a maintenance predicted value with respect to a maintenance of each machine's mode within a contract time or a contract term every two or more contract ranks, a means of storing a maintenance actual result value, which accumulatively stores the maintenance actual result value of the machine entered from the client terminal, and a determination means that reads out the maintenance predicted value, which corresponds to the machine's model and the contract rank, from the maintenance actual result value storage means, while reads out the maintenance actual result value of the machine from the maintenance actual result value storage means, and then

determines whether the maintenance actual result value is larger than the maintenance predicted value.

Claim 12 (Canceled).

Claim 13 (Original): A management method of a machine, comprising the steps of:

- storing a maintenance predicted value with respect to a maintenance in a maintenance rank table organized by model in a contract time period or in a contract term every two or more contract ranks;
- storing the mode of a machine under maintenance contract, contract rank, and maintenance actual result value;
- accumulatively storing a maintenance actual result value of the machine being entered into the means for storing the maintenance actual result;
- reading the maintenance actual result value out of the means for storing the maintenance actual result value in addition to read a maintenance predicted value out of the machine maintenance rank table organized by mode, where the maintenance predicted value correspond to the machine's mode and the contract rank; and
- determining whether the maintenance actual result value is larger than the maintenance predicted value.

Response under 37 CFR 1.111
Serial No. 09/900,490
Attorney Docket No. 010866

Claim 14 (Original): A management method of Claim 13, wherein

if the maintenance value is smaller than the maintenance predicted value, it is preferable to calculate and pay the dividend under the conditions that the difference between these values is larger than a predetermined value.

Claim 15 (Original): A management method of Claim 13, wherein

the contract rank of the maintenance rank table organized by model is reconsidered under the conditions that difference between the maintenance value and the maintenance predicted value is larger than a predetermined value, and a new contract rank is obtained by the reconsideration at the time of making a following maintenance contract, followed by using the new contract rank in the following maintenance contract.

Claim 16 (Original): A management method of Claim 15, wherein

if the contract rank in maintenance rank table organized by model is reconsidered, the usage conditions and operating conditions of the machine are considered in the process of reconsideration.

Claims 17-18 (Cancelled).